

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/602,379

Examiner

Jon A Szumny

Applicant(s)

GANOT, DENIS

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to June 24, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10 27 2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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This is the first office action for application number 10/602,379, A Runner for a Vehicle Seat and a Method of Manufacturing It, filed on June 24, 2003.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

Receipt is acknowledged of Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Statement, which has been reviewed by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tom Miller on May 11, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 4, line 29, "6" has been changed to --7--;

On page 5, line 5, "8" has been changed to --9--;

On page 6, line 7, "leading" has been changed to --from leading--;

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In claims 2-8 and 10, line 1, "A" has been changed to --The--;

In claim 4, line 2, "the same" has been changed to --a--;

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art (such as Kanda '660 of Isomura et al. '775) taught examples of vehicle seat runners each comprising first and second runner elements slidably mounted relative to each other in a longitudinal direction, the first runner element comprising a fin connected to a base that is substantially perpendicular to the fin and that extends perpendicularly to the transverse direction between two side portions in connection with the second runner element, the first runner element comprising first and second sheet metal section members each having a fin wall, the fin walls of the first and second section members touching each other and being fixed together via their main faces to form the fin of the first runner element, the first section member further comprising a base wall which forms at least part of the base of the first runner element, the base wall of the first section member being connected to the fin wall of the first section member via a rounded bend which co-operates with the second section member.

However the prior art failed to further specifically teach the base wall of the first section member to be connected to the fin wall of the first section member via a rounded bend which co-operates with the second section member to define a slot,

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wherein the first runner element further comprises at least one welded reinforcing tab which spans at least part of the slot and constitutes a direct rigid mechanical connection between the second section member and the base wall of the first section member.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Urai '730, Urai '144, Isomura et al. '775, Kanda '660, Rohee '436, Christopher '561, Seki '415, Yamada et al. '990, Furukawa '739 and Mallard et al. '099 teach various slidable runner elements.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon A Szumny whose telephone number is (703) 306-3403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application and proceeding are assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Jon Szumny
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600
Art Unit 3632
May 11, 2004



LESLIE A. BRAUN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER